

Board of Health Report – December 2nd, 2020

Substance Abuse and Prevention Division, Lowell Health Department

Substance Abuse Coordinator, Division Manager
Lainnie Emond, LMHC

Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) Grant Initiatives:

- Lainnie continues to work with the Co-Chairs of the Mayor's Opioid Epidemic Crisis Task Force. The last meeting of the calendar year was October 26th, 2020. The 2021 meetings calendar will be released by the end of the 2020 calendar year.
- Lainnie continues to lead the Data Subcommittee of the Mayor's Opioid Task Force. Meetings are being held virtually. In November, the Subcommittee drafted an "Opioid Trends Report in Lowell, MA" on the topic of Winter Readiness. The Subcommittee also drafted potential social media images to be released as PSAs alongside the report.

Lowell CO-OP and Grant Efforts:

- Lainnie continues to be involved in administrative planning for the Lowell CO-OP, including co-facilitating Lowell CO-OP Supervisors Meetings and working with team and grant partners to ensure effectiveness of the team. All meeting are being held virtually at this time.
- Lainnie and Lowell CO-OP Supervisor, Maricia Verma, have conducted first and second round interviews for the Youth Outreach Specialist position on the Lowell CO-OP. The Youth Outreach Specialist is a Lowell Health Department position that is grant funded through the Lowell Police Department's Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Program grant. The Youth Outreach Specialist will provide case management services to youth and young adults who have been impacted by the opioid epidemic (ie. their own use of opioid and/or the use of opioids by a loved one).

Additional Substance Abuse Coordinator Activities:

- Lainnie continues to manage daily activities of the Substance Abuse and Prevention Division.
- Lainnie continues to be the point person for www.DrugFreeGreaterLowell.org (see MOAPC report). Lainnie has been updating current content and writing new content.
- Lainnie continues to be part of the Merrimack Valley Substance Use Disorder Symposium planning committee. The symposium will be held virtually on December 7th, 2020 from 9-1pm.
- For the past year, Lainnie has been a member of the Mass HEALing Communities Study (HCS) coalition. The goal of the HCS is to decrease fatal overdoses in Lowell by 40% in two years. Lainnie also serves on the Communications Subcommittee of the HCS.

Massachusetts Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative (MOAPC)

*** Lainnie Emond is overseeing the MOAPC Coalition and grant efforts in the interim***

Drug Free Greater Lowell Website

- www.DrugFreeGreaterLowell.org is being maintained via the MOAPC grant. The COVID-19 resource page related to mental health, substance abuse treatment and recovery, and youth prevention is being updated regularly.
- The Prevention Professionals of Northern Middlesex have started a virtual learning library on the Drug Free Greater Lowell website that houses prevention and harm reduction videos: <https://drugfreegreaterlowell.org/virtual-learning/>. Videos can be shared with community members, youth serving organizations, parents, and youth. As of now, video topics include vaping prevention, internet safety, Narcan training, physiology of addiction, and opioids in dental health. Videos and podcasts will be added as seen fit.

2020 Drug Free Greater Lowell Website Analytics

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total Page Views	645	497	559	470	430	494	988	930	897	1,016	--	--
Unique Page Views	496	362	390	329	295	325	617	590	640	780	--	--

Other Updates

- N/A

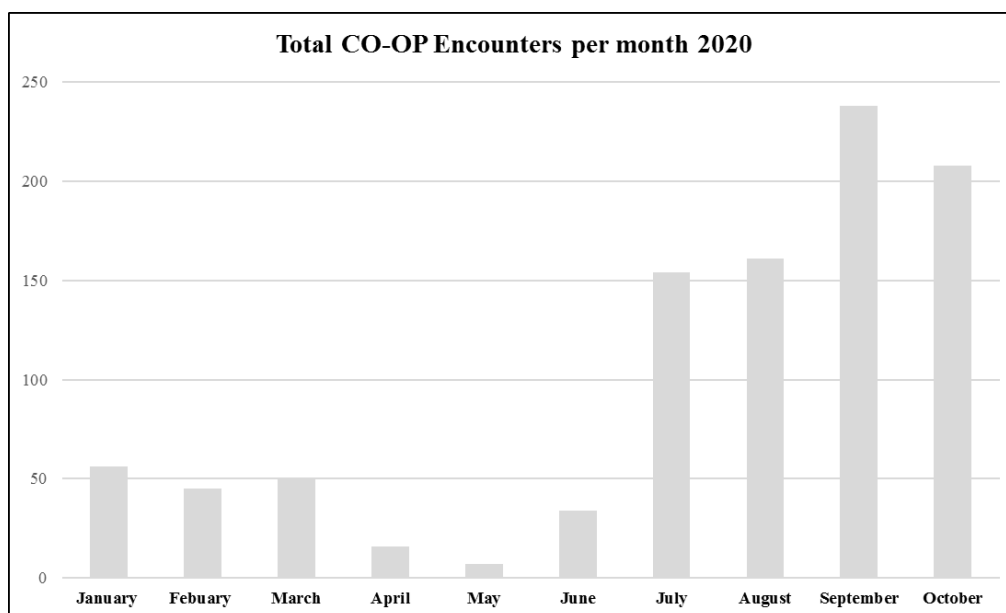
Lowell Community Opioid Outreach Program (CO-OP) – Overview

Maricia Verma, Lowell CO-OP Supervisor

Lowell CO-OP Data

--	Oct 2019	Oct 2020	2019 Total	2020 Total
Total Encounters	33	208	667	969
Unique Encounters	16	91	378	462
Initial Interaction	2	14	100	113
OD Follow-Up	4	4	116	89
Section 35	0	0	20	8
Clinical Clients	2	39	40	90
Disseminate Narcan	5	15	141	135
SUD Treatment	11	34	158	149
Medical Treatment	1	24	33	104
Other Services	1	19	47	71
Misc. Outreach	72	78	1,581	496

Although the number of Lowell CO-OP encounters decreased in the calendar month of October 2020, the total individual encounters remain more than triple number compared to the months at the beginning of the 2020 calendar year.



Lowell CO-OP Staff Changes

- Substance Abuse Coordinator and Lowell CO-OP Supervisor conducted first round interviews for the Lowell CO-OP's Youth Outreach Specialist position. Lowell CO-OP team members joined in for second round interviews. A candidate recommendation has been made.
- The Lowell CO-OP saw several staff changes in October. Officer Andrew Daly from the Lowell Police Department has been assigned full-time to the Lowell CO-OP. EMTs Evan Lucey and Timothy Spinney from Trinity EMS have joined the Lowell CO-OP, each working part-time.

Lowell Community Opioid Outreach Program (CO-OP) – **Clinical Services**

Joseph Aniello, Clinical Recovery Specialist

Please note that “Clinical Staff” for the Lowell CO-OP are completed by Joseph Aniello, Maricia Verma (Lowell CO-OP Supervisor), and Gianna Sandelli (Assistance Director of Outreach from Lowell House Addiction Treatment and Recover).

Lowell CO-OP Clinical Services Data 2020

--	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Clinical Sessions	--	--	18	16	7	10	65	100	147	135	--	--	498
Clinical Clients	--	--	7	4	3	4	16	23	28	39	--	--	124
Initial Interaction	--	--	1	0	0	0	4	6	7	10	--	--	28
Medical Treatment	--	--	4	1	0	0	6	8	44	36	--	--	99
Transportation	--	--	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	--	--	4
Housing	--	--	5	0	0	0	7	3	27	11	--	--	53
Financial	--	--	5	2	1	1	2	3	55	66	--	--	135
DCF	--	--	4	4	4	1	10	1	27	3	--	--	54
Other	--	--	18	0	0	5	2	8	23	9	--	--	65

Definitions of Data Categories	
Clinical Sessions	Total number of clients that have engaged in clinical case management with Lowell CO-OP Clinical Staff. Includes duplicates of clients.
Clinical Clients	Total number of unduplicated clinical clients that were engaged by Clinical Staff.
Initial Interaction	Total number of clients that the Clinical Staff began clinical case management services during the month.
Transportation	Total number of instances where Clinical Staff case management for clinical clients with regard to transportation services.
Housing	Total number of instances where Clinical Staff performed case management with clinical clients in regard to housing services.
Financial	Total number of instances where Clinical Staff performed case management with clinical client in regard to financial services.
DCF	Total number of instances where Clinical Staff performed case management with clinical clients in regard to services related to the DCF.
Other	Total number of instances where Clinical Staff performed case management with clinical clients for any other service.
Case Management	The process of assessment, planning, facilitation, care coordination, and advocacy for clinical clients’ ongoing psychosocial needs for the promotion of long term substance use recovery.

Additional Information

- Gianna Sandelli hosted a weeklong Recovery Coach training at Lowell House.
- The Lowell CO-OP clinical staff continued to collaborate with local partners to coordinate client care. Partners include Life Connection Center, Community Teamwork Inc., Department of Children and Families, Department of Mental Health, Lowell Transitional Living Center, and Lowell Community Health Center.

Syringe Collection Program
Andres Gonzalez, Syringe Collection Program Coordinator

City Department and Community Partner Engagement:

- Lowell Public Schools
- Lowell City Council
- Lowell Public Works
- Mill City Grows
- Salvation Army
- Life Connection Center
- Healthy Streets
- UMass Lowell
- Trinity E.M.S.
- Middlesex Ct. Superior Court
- Mass DOT
- Office of the City Manager
- Lowell CO-OP
- Department of Planning & Development
- Lowell Street Department
- Lowell Police Department
- Lowell Parks Department

Meetings Attended:

- 10/22 GLHA Health Equity Task Force Meeting (Virtual)
- 11/4 Hunger Homeless Commission Meeting (Virtual)

Areas Proactively Swept for Discarded Syringes:

- Dutton Street Bridge
- Riverfront Park
- Le Lachur Park
- Lowell Locks
- Eastern Canal Park
- Hunts Falls Bridge
- George Street
- Favor Street
- Rogers Street Bridge
- South Common Park
- North Common Park
- Thorndike Overpass
- Eastern Canal Park
- Concord River
- Point Park
- Bridge Street Park
- River Bike Path
- Lincoln Street

Syringe Collection Activity 2020

Total Number of...	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov (1-17)	Dec	Total
Discarded pick-up requests*	20	24	21	14	13	20	33	45	18	19	5	--	212
Incoming calls for pick-up requests**	18	9	11	9	8	16	21	21	15	18	10	--	138
Syringes picked-up while responding to <u>all</u> discarded pick-up requests	375	135	547	124	50	91	205	413	257	198	25	--	2402
Syringes picked up during Community Clean-up Events	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	0
Syringes proactively picked-up while in the community	1125	774	727	882	583	1190	1824	1946	1218	1345	625	--	12239
Hours proactively picking-up discarded syringes	50	44	40	51	27.5	66	67	62.5	43	89	45	--	548

Sharps Disposal Kiosk: On 11/3, two boxes totaling 66 pounds of unwanted sharps were disposed of via the Lowell Health Department's Sharps Disposal Kiosk.